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Fiancee Says Lee Was CIA Dupe

By MARJORIE MILLER Staff Writer, The San Diego Union

A San Diego woman who plans to marry convicted spy Andrew Daulton Lee says she has evidence a third person was involved in the espionage case which landed Lee and co-conspirator Christopher Boyce in prison for selling U.S. satellite secrets to the Soviet Union.

Kathleen McKenny, a 28-year-old free-lance writer, said her evidence of a third person and other new information will be used to request a retrial for her fiance, who is in the Federal Correctional Institute at Lompoc.

She said she hopes the request will be made before next January, when the couple hopes to marry if granted permission by prison authorities.

Lee and Boyce were convicted in 1977 of selling to the Soviet Union top secret information that Boyce stole and copied while he was a security clerk at TRW in Redondo Beach.

During the trial, Lee's attorney argued Lee believed he was working as a subcontractor for the CIA, selling incorrect information.

Lee was arrested in front of the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City with a copy of a proposed satellite system.

McKenny, who was writing a book on Lee when she met him three months ago, said she believes he was convicted as a result of a CIA conspiracy and that the new evidence will force a retrial which will prove his innocence.

"We have learned there was, in fact, a third party involved in the espionage," she told a press conference at her downtown apartment last night. "He (the third person) was hired by or in cooperation with Christopher Boyce," she said.

She said she has talked to the third person, who she says is working in San Diego. and that "he has expressed a willingness to come forth and talk."

McKenny said she has also found a CIA agent who will be leaving the agency in January and "will say there is a canceled check in the safe at CIA headquarters in Los Angeles made out to Christopher

McKenny said she believes that, plus evidence of jury misconduct in the 1977 trial, will force a new trial.

McKenny said she is meeting with Kenneth Kahn, Lee's attorney, in Los Angeles today "to discuss strategy" but that she hopes to have papers filed before Jan. 2, which is Lee's 30th birthday and the day the couple hopes to marry.

Kahn was unavailable for comment.

"I would like to know that six months down the road I will have a husband I can go to bed with at night," McKenny said. But she said she wants to marry Lee regardless if he is granted a retrial

Lee, who was on the telephone to McKenny at the beginning of the press conference, said he is marrying because "I am in love." He denied he is marrying for publicity for his case. "I don't think that is the issue at hand," he said.

Howard Scott, Lee's case worker at Lompoc prison, said he received a request for the marriage Wednesday and that it was being submitted to the warden. He said he wouldn't have an answer for the couple before Monday.

McKenny, whose kitchen wall is covered with messages and mailgrams regarding the case, said she talks to Lee one to three times a day. She said she has been researching the case heavily for the last six months and that it "borders on being a total obsession" with her.

Rob McGlaston, who introduced himself as McKenny's press agent-research assistant-bodyguard, said McKenny has received two telephone threats in the last two weeks.